

To: Natarajan, Nitin[Natarajan.Nitin@epa.gov]; Stanislaus, Mathy[Stanislaus.Mathy@epa.gov]; Breen, Barry[Breen.Barry@epa.gov]; Hilosky, Nick[Hilosky.Nick@epa.gov]; Brooks, Becky[Brooks.Becky@epa.gov]; Woolford, James[Woolford.James@epa.gov]; Gardner, Monica[Gardner.Monica@epa.gov]; Fitz-James, Schatzi[Fitz-James.Schatzi@epa.gov]; Reynolds, Thomas[Reynolds.Thomas@epa.gov]; Purchia, Liz[Purchia.Liz@epa.gov]; Gartner, Lois[Gartner.Loïs@epa.gov]; Cohen, Nancy[Cohen.Nancy@epa.gov]; Fritz, Matthew[Fritz.Matthew@epa.gov]
From: Stalcup, Dana
Sent: Tue 8/18/2015 9:25:03 PM
Subject: RE: Status of Press Release

Yes, DOI is prepared to take the incoming press and Congressional questions on the independent study

Dana Stalcup

Director, Assessment and Remediation Division

OSWER/Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation (OSRTI)

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From: Natarajan, Nitin
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2015 5:18 PM
To: Stalcup, Dana; Stanislaus, Mathy; Breen, Barry; Hilosky, Nick; Brooks, Becky; Woolford, James; Gardner, Monica; Fitz-James, Schatzi; Reynolds, Thomas; Purchia, Liz; Gartner, Lois; Cohen, Nancy; Fritz, Matthew
Subject: RE: Status of Press Release

And to confirm....DOI is ready to take the press and congressional incomings?

N

Nitin Natarajan

Deputy Assistant Administrator

Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response

Environmental Protection Agency

202-566-0200 Office

From: Stalcup, Dana

Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2015 5:16 PM

To: Stanislaus, Mathy; Breen, Barry; Natarajan, Nitin; Hilosky, Nick; Brooks, Becky; Woolford, James; Gardner, Monica; Fitz-James, Schatzi; Reynolds, Thomas; Purchia, Liz; Gartner, Lois; Cohen, Nancy; Fritz, Matthew

Subject: Status of Press Release

The following press release has been approved by the Bureau of Reclamation and by the US Army Corps of Engineers for release today. DOI committed to issuing another press release later this week with additional details on the technical support team. Because those two agencies are still working out some of the details on the role and timing for USACE support, and because other folks may be involved in the peer review, both agencies recommended that the release go out as shown below, without any mention of the USACE – that will be handled in their later press release. So, they have both blessed this [although USACE is doing a “fatal flaw” check up one or two more levels but were confident that it would be okay]. Sorry for the delay; thanks – Dana

August 18, 2015

Contact:

Press@epa.gov

EPA Announces U.S. Department of the Interior to Lead Independent Review of Gold King Mine Release

Review to include analysis of the cause of release, contractor activities and lessons learned for use on ongoing and planned projects

WASHINGTON - EPA announced today the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) will lead an independent assessment of the factors that led to the Gold King Mine incident on August 5, 2015, in Colorado that affected the Animas and San Juan rivers. The assessment begins today, Tuesday, August 18, and it is anticipated that DOI will provide the assessment report to EPA and the public within 60 days.

The goal of DOI's independent review is to provide EPA with an analysis of the incident that took place at Gold King Mine, including the contributing causes.

Details about the independent review will be made available by DOI when they become available.

In addition to the independent review, EPA is conducting its own internal technical examination of the incident. Both reviews will help inform ongoing and planned site assessments, investigations, and construction or removal projects.

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